COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, *the* 1st of Dhanu 1105.
16th of December 1929.

The House met at Half past Eleven of the Clock with the President in the Chair. Messrs. A. S. Harihara Ayyar and M. K. Raman were absent.

Swearing in of New Member.

(Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar, the Ag. Chief Engineer, took and subscribed the oath of allegiance.)

Opening Statement of the President.

President.—Honourable Members of the Legislative Council, I do not propose to make any lengthy opening statement. Let me, as usual, extend to you all a hearty greeting on this occasion of the commencement of the Legislative Session of the year and let me fervently hope that the result of our deliberations will be for the lasting good of the people of Cochin. May I entreat you for your cordial support to me in the discharge of the onerous duties of the Chair?

It is but fit and proper that I should, before commencing the work of the day, make a reference to the great honour done to our State by the recent notable visit of Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Irwin. As has been truly observed by His Highness our Gracious Maharaja, Lord Irwin of illustrious ancestry is an ideal Viceroy having the noblest qualities of head and heart. His Excellency has unquestionably endeared himself to the hearts of the people of India by his historic pronouncement of the 31st October last on Indian Constitutional Reforms. Straight and sincere in all that His Excellency says and does, His Excellency is loved and respected throughout the whole of India, and I may assure you that the friendly people of Cochin made a very good impression on His Excellency. It is a matter of supreme satisfaction to know that Their Excellencies carried away with them very pleasant recollections of their memorable stay in Cochin.

I have now great pleasure to open the session. The item of business 'Questions and Answers' will now be proceeded with.

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